

WITHDRAWAL NOTICE

ACCESS RESTRICTED

Item No. 26523.

Date Oct 42 - June 44

Now in file 92-00687B

Box 1

File #5

has been withdrawn from this file:

Job No. 16-787

Box No. 15

Folder No. 124

Entire folder
NYNY-SI-PER-3

The item has been withdrawn because it contains security classified information or otherwise restricted information.

Maxwell Dichter

National Security Act of 1947

Authority

1947

Date

100 26523

REMOVED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 009601

DOCUMENT NO. 26523
NO CHANGE IN CLASS ☒
☐ DECLASSIFIED
CLASS. CHANGING TO: UNCLASSIFIED
NEXT REVIEW DATE: 1-4-72
AUTH: NS 10-2
DATE: 1-4-72 REVIEWER: 123

Folder # 124

FROM:

FREE

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

Accession No. .X65.291



Mr. Robert Pershall

June 10, 1944.

Mr. E. R. Richer

Gabriel DICHTER

JUN 10 1944

X65372

At the suggestion of Mr. Nasht in his note to me on June 8th I contacted Mr. Dichter again and informed him that we would like to have him in Washington the week of the 19th for an interview with you.

I suggested that he get into Washington sometime around noon June 20, this would mean that if you wanted to send him to "S" the afternoon of June 20th you could do so.

He is prepared to stay in Washington throughout the week if you desire to send him to Assessment school.

Miss CANTHORN's "S" schedule now includes Mr. Dichter for the 20th. If anything should develop where he could not go in on that day, please let me know as I will have to contact Mr. DICHTER and let him know.

After spending another half hour with him this morning I am even more impressed with him than I was.

I am enclosing several of the magazines he published in France which we had in our files. You might add them to your file there.

Copies to: Victor Onativia
John Nasht

FREE

W.O. 26523

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 009007

FROM:

FREE

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

Accession No. *X65291*Date Rec'd SA *6/9*

To	Room No.	Date		Officer's Initials	Comments
		Rec'd.	Fwd'd.		
1. <i>Richer</i>		<i>6/9</i>	<i>6/9</i>	<i>ERR</i>	<i>This should be filed with his regular file. R</i>
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FREE

 DECLASSIFIED
 Authority *NAB 009007*

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D. C. 5



8 June 1944

JUN - 9 1944

Mr. E. R. Richer
Office of Strategic Services
630 Fifth Avenue
New York City

x 65291

Dear Mr. Richer:

In Mr. Pershall's absence, your memorandum of 7 June concerning Gabriel Dichter was handed to me by Mr. Onativia.

I am certain that this Branch is very much interested in a man with Mr. Dichter's qualifications, and would, therefore, appreciate it if you could make arrangements to have him come down to Washington during the week of the 19th for an interview. By that time Mr. Pershall will have returned and will see him personally.

Sincerely,

John Nasht
John Nasht

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 009007

FR

Mr. Robert Pershall

Mr. E. R. Richer

June 7, 1944.

I interviewed your man GABRIEL DICHTER today and was extremely well impressed. We have a very comprehensive file in our office on him but before sending any of this material to you, why not call me and we will discuss this man further on our private phone.

x 65180

This man has a very complete background in two fields - oil and publishing. As you know, he published a very impressive oil trade journal in Paris before the Germans took over. This publication was in existence 18 years and was started by him as a result of his intensive contacts with Roumanian politicians and oil executives.

He still controls (under his wife's name) the Petroleum Times published in London. The copy is attached.

He is now making a serious effort to break into the publishing field in this country. A copy of his proposed publication "Post-War Time" is also enclosed.

He has been unable to develop this past the dummy stage as he has been unable to get the paper as you probably know. I feel you will be as interested in the book as I was.

This man has been interviewed three times by this organization and at one time was on our payroll and provided us with a regular report on the Axis oil picture.

He is anxious to do something to be of help; he has taken out his first papers (1942); He has an unusual command of languages being fluent in French and Roumanian and having a very comprehensive knowledge of German, Spanish, Italian and some of the Slovak languages.

He is 58 years old but doesn't look it.

If you have a slot for a man who is extremely able and appears to have one of the best public relations, journalistic and publishing backgrounds that I have yet encountered, DICHTER is the man.

If you want me to arrange for him to come to Washington for a interview, let me know.

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES

Room 5665,
630 Fifth Avenue,
New York, 20, N. Y.
June 5, 1944.

File

Mr. Gabriel Dichter,
22 East 58th Street,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Dichter:

You have been recommended as a person possessing qualifications which would be valuable to this office, and, at one time, as I understand it, you were interviewed by someone in our organization.

If this matter is one that is still of any interest to you, we should much appreciate word from you to this effect, following which an interview will be arranged. I suggest that you write or phone me at your earliest convenience.

Since the activities of this office are of a confidential nature, as you know, please treat this matter accordingly.

Very truly yours,

Telephone:
Co. 5-8540

E. R. Richer.

*Interviewed by
E. Richer
6/7/44
11:00 AM*

*Telephone
Mr. 2-0478*

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Mr Cook

Date: November 25, 1942

TO:

FROM:

SUBJECT:

To: Mr. M. I. Gurfein

From: Thomas G. Cook

Subject: Gabriel Dichter

034297

259

I had a talk of LeRevue P. me in strict

1. It a part firm of Berne Wenger, whose German synthe

2. He gave me in February, 1 the figures is received these for France who attache in Ber various ways in

3. He also giv and France 8,00 production to b reserves are 40 in Girgu.

4. He also stat wells should be from the 80,000 the French synth tons per month,

The synthetic pr 20,000 tons per

Please pass on to

Thank you for your memorandum in regard to the above subject. I happened to be at the Socony-Vacuum Oil Company today to see Mr. Sheets, and the above subject's name came up in the conversation. Mr. Sheets tells me that Mrs. Dichter is employed by the British service here now in an important capacity and is an extraordinarily able and intelligent woman. She is probably earning a very fair salary from them, but he feels quite sure that they have very limited resources outside her salary and that while Dichter himself might be very hesitant about taking anything in payment for expenses, he would probably be glad to be attached here on some basis of regular compensation if you think that this is advisable.

W.H.

I don't see how we can except part-time & as Consultant

W.D.S.

M. I. G.

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 009007

DOCUMENT NO. 26523
NO CHANGE IN CLASS ☐
DECLASSIFIED
CHANGED TO: TS S (C)
REVIEW DATE: 6 Apr
AUTH: HR 70-2
DATE: 8-4-92 REVIEWER: 66500

ROUTING
For Officer Designations
(2546)

SECRET

TO: Mr. George K. Bowden
FROM: Murray I. Gurfeln
SUBJECT: Gabriel Richter

D-File

Nov. 24th 1942

030259

I had a talk with Gabriel Richter, formerly the publisher and editor of LeRevue Petrolifere, of Paris. Among other things Mr. Richter tells me in strict confidence the following:

1. At a party in Paris in July 1939, Fischer of the Fischer-Tropsch firm of Germany, apparently in a moment of indiscretion, told Mme. Leon Wenger, whose husband was a petroleum official, that the forecast for German synthetic oil production for the year 1940 was 1,200,000 metric tons.
 2. He gave me a photostat of figures which Fischer printed in his magazine in February, 1940, which I attach herewith. The explanation of how he got the figures is interesting and is as follows: In December, 1939, Richter received these figures from Louis Pinesu, the administrator of Petroleum for France who told Richter that he had received them from the French military attache in Berlin. Richter states that he has checked these figures in various ways and believes them to be accurate.
 3. He also gives as his estimate that the Germans found in Holland, Belgium and France 3,000,000 tons of petroleum. He figures the present Rumanian production to be about 5,500,000 tons annually. He believes that the reserves are 400,000 to 500,000 tons in Constant and 150,000 to 200,000 tons in Girgu.
 4. He also states that the total French production of petroleum from oil wells should be about 100,000 tons, allowing for about 20,000 tons expansion from the 80,000 tons which was the basic figure for 1940. He believes that the French synthetic production of all substitutes is about 8,000 to 10,000 tons per month, including alcohol, benzol, charcoal.
- The synthetic production of synthetic petroleum is not over 15,000 to 20,000 tons per year.
- Please pass on to R & A.

M. I. G.

DOCUMENT NO. 26523
NO CHANGE IN CLASS ☐
DECLASSIFIED
S. CHANGED TO: TS 8 (S)
NEXT REVIEW DATE: 6 APR
BY: HR 70-2
DATE: 8-4-72 REVIEWER: 66-900

SECRET

DECLASSIFIED
Authority: NND 009007

26523

W.O. 26523

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

FROM:

MIG

SECRET

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

Accession No. *X.1113.7...*

Date Rec'd SA *11-21-42* *11/19/42*

To	Room No.	Date		Officer's Initials	Comments
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Each comment should be numbered to correspond with number in To column.

A line should be drawn across sheet under each comment.

Officer Designations should be used in To column.

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For Officer Designations see separate sheet.

(2548)

SECRET

DECLASSIFIED
Authority *NND 009007*

X 111 37

November 19, 1942

SECRET

TO: Mr. Thomas Cook
FROM: Murray I. Gurfein
SUBJECT: Gabriel Dichter

I had a talk with your friend, Dichter. I broached to him the subject of our giving him some money for expenses, and he said it was absolutely not necessary, and indicated in rather definite terms he would not accept any money for expenses.

M. I. G.

M. I. G.

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 009007

23

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110 700
X11137

November 19, 1942

TO: Mr. Thomas Cook
FROM: Murray I. Gurfeln
SUBJECT: Gabriel Dichter

Mr. Gabriel Dichter
I had a talk with your friend, Dichter. I broached to him the subject of our giving him some money for expenses, and he said it was absolutely not necessary, and indicated in rather definite terms he would not accept any money for expenses.

M. I. G.



DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 009007

110,796

D

Room 3663
630 Fifth Avenue
New York City, N.Y.
November 17, 1942

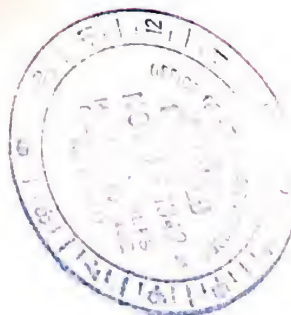
Mr. Gabriel Dichter
c/o E. H. Lee
Palisades Ave. & 255th St.
Riverdale, New York

Dear Mr. Dichter:

I should like very much to see you again and would appreciate it if you would telephone me at Columbus 5-8540 upon receipt of this letter at which time we can make a mutually convenient appointment.

Very truly yours

Murray I. Gurfein



DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 009007

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 009007

October 28, 1942

34296

Mr. H. F. Sheets
Socony-Vacuum Oil Company
26 Broadway
New York, New York

My dear Mr. Sheets:

This is just a line to thank you again for bringing Mr. Gabriel Dichter to our attention, and to tell you that we have engaged him to do one or two things for us.

We hope to be able to utilize his wide knowledge in his particular field to furnish us with reports from time to time, for which we would, of course, properly compensate him.

With best regards, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

Thomas G. Cook

TGC:DEG

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 009007

X8897

October 21, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. George Bowden

FROM: Mr. Allen Dulles

I attach a photostat copy of a memorandum prepared for us by Mr. G. Dichter, expert with regard to Roumanian petroleum matters, on the basis of the June 15, 1942 and July 1, 1942 numbers of the publication "MONITORUL PETROLULUI ROMAN" which we recently received through Drum and the pouch.

This memorandum might possibly be of interest to R & A and if they are interested in these copies of the Monitorul Petrolului Roman I should be glad to have them forwarded.

A.W.Dulles

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

Accession No. 18900

Date Rec'd SA 10/22

1. To	Room No.	Date		Officer's Initials	Comments
		Rec'd.	Fwd'd.		
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DECLASSIFIED
 Authority NND 009007

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

October 21, 1942

TO: Allen W. Dulles

FROM: Murray I. Gurfein

SUBJECT: Gabriel Dichter

I understand you talked with Dichter. I had sent a note to R. & A. concerning him, and they tell me:-

"Such a great volume of work has been done on the oil situation, both here and in England, that our people feel that they have not a great deal to gain from one who left France as long ago as March, 1941. We should like to see Mr. Dichter's study and if, on the basis of the study, it seems advisable for our oil experts to talk to Mr. Dichter, a meeting could be arranged."

Do you have any suggestions concerning Dichter and how he should be handled? *Normally, I would send him to BERT - but in view of the file I would like to do so.*

M. I. G.

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 009007

SECRET

file

18933

Mr. Murray Gurfel

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES, 1942
NEW YORK

CONFIDENTIAL

October 21, 1942

TO: John B. Wilson, R. & A. Langer advised that this was action
FROM: Murray I. Gurfel

Thank you for your memorandum of October 20th.

1. I would appreciate getting the Strategic Survey of Bulgarians here by courier in lieu of picking it up at your office.
2. It has been arranged that the appropriate people in the New York Office see the O. & A. weekly progress report.
3. Concerning Licher, I am sending down some material obtained from him as soon as I can correlate it, and would appreciate it if you would let Calvin Hoover have a copy of it.
4. Mr. Desk did not call when he was in Washington because he had left by the time I was able to try to get your message to him.

J.D.W.

M. I. G.

P.S. I understand that Mr. Desk did not call when he was in town the other day.



DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 009007

WOW 26523

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

SECRET

File 18785
Murray Gurfein
W. H.

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D. C.

TO: Mr. Murray Gurfein
FROM: John D. Wilson

October 20, 1942

R & A

I spoke to Langer about letting R & A reports go to the New York office. Langer agreed that this was satisfactory. Do you wish to have the Strategic Survey of Bulgaria sent there or would you like to pick it up here?

We have arranged to have the R & A Work in Progress Report sent to Mr. Dulles in place of O'Keefe. Could you see that appropriate people in the New York office have an idea of what is being done each week in R & A?

You wrote to me concerning Mr. Gabriel Dichter. Such a great volume of work has been done on the oil situation, both here and in England, that our people feel they have not a great deal to gain from one who left France as long ago as March 1941. We should like to see Mr. Dichter's study and if, on the basis of the study, it seems advisable for our oil experts to talk to Mr. Dichter, a meeting could be arranged.

Mrs. Rado has sent us several very interesting and useful reports recently.

J.D.W.
J.D.W.

P.S. I understand that Mr. Deak did not call when he was in town the other day.

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 209007

W.O. 26523

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

SECRET
ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

Accession No. ...*K.8360*...

Date Rec'd SA*10/14*.....

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DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 009007

X 8360
OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES

INTEROFFICE MEMO

DATE: OCT 13 1942

R. G. D'Oench

Mr. Allen W. Dulles

SUBJECT: European Publications on Petroleum

Attached hereto are two Petroleum Bulletins just received from Mr. A. H. Meyer in Switzerland. Mr. Meyer states - "he has just returned from three months military service, which accounts for his inability to reply to a letter which was written to him on July 19, 1942. Mr. Meyer adds that the publications KRAFTSTOFF, ERDOEL UND KOHLE and PETROLEUM have ceased to appear. The MONITORUL PETROLULUI ROMAN will be sent to you regularly as it appears, also any other literature on petroleum or synthetic benzine which Mr. Meyer may be able to pick up."

R. G. D. O.


Attachments

SECRET

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 009007

W 26523

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
NEW YORK

MEMORANDUM

October 12, 1942

TO: John D. Wilson, R.&A. Division

FROM: Murray I. Gurfeln

SUBJECT: GABRIEL DICHTER

48267

I have had an interesting talk with Mr. Gabriel Dichter, who comes highly recommended by Mr. H. P. Sheets, vice-president of the Socony-Vacuum Oil Company. Mr. Dichter is a great expert on the oil situation in Europe, including the Balkan situation. He was in the oil business for twenty years, making his headquarters in Paris, and was the publisher and editor of La Revue Petroliere, published in Paris until the German occupation. This, as you probably know, was a technical journal which contained currently in its issues the important statistics relating to the oil industry of Europe.

Mr. Dichter left France in March, 1941. He has published a study of the oil production of Germany for the years 1939, 1940 and 1941, a copy of which he will be glad to let us have.

He believes that on the basis of his knowledge up to 1941 he can make a real contribution toward our study of the oil potentials of Germany and the occupied countries.

It is my thought that if an oil expert could arrange to talk to Mr. Dichter, it might prove of great value to our study of this kind. I would appreciate your letting me know your reaction to this, and I can arrange to call Mr. Dichter to arrange any such appointment.

M. I. G.

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 009007

W 26523

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 009007

MEMORANDUM

October 9, 1942

TO: Mr. Murray Gurfein

FROM: Thomas G. Cook
c/o Mr. Gabriel Dichter
630 Fifth Avenue & 265th Street
New York

342951

Pursuant to our conversation, I attach hereto a copy of a letter I am today sending to Mr. Gabriel Dichter. I am also attaching a copy of the letter from H. F. Sheets, vice president of the Socony-Vacuum Oil Company. At your convenience, will you please telephone Mr. Gurfein here for an appointment. The address is Room 2663, 630 Fifth Avenue, telephone: COLUMBUS 5 - 8540.

Yours very truly,

Thomas G. Cook

Enclosure
The above letter was sent to Mr. Gurfein by registered mail on October 10, 1942.
The letter was received by Mr. Gurfein on October 11, 1942.
The letter was opened and read by Mr. Gurfein on October 11, 1942.
The letter was then placed in Mr. Gurfein's file.
The letter was not returned to the sender.

28 BROADWAY
NEW YORK

October 6th, 1941.

Dear Mr. Cook:-

Re: Mr. Gabriel Dichter.

Referring to our conversation regarding Mr. Gabriel Dichter, the following information will interest you.

He was born at Bucharest July 1, 1901, of Roumanian parents; was educated at Bucharest, and took his degree at the Sorbonne in Paris in 1925. After completing his work at the Sorbonne, he returned to Bucharest and took up Journalism.

October 9, 1942

Mr. Gabriel Dichter
c/o Mr. Elliott Hugh Lee
Palisade Avenue & 255th Street
Riverdale, New York

34234

In 1914, after the declaration of war, he took an extremely active part in a propaganda campaign, endeavoring to win Roumania from her Alliance with Germany. This work was successfully accomplished, and Roumania joined the war. In 1925, after the Roumanian Armistice, he came to the United States and was connected with the work of this office, and suggested Conferences.

At your convenience, will you please telephone Mr. Murray Gurfein here for an appointment. The address is Room 3663, 630 Fifth Avenue, telephone: The Columbus 5 - 8540.

In 1930, he married a woman named Mrs. Dichter.

Yours very truly,

In 1932, he was one of the founders of the "Revista Petrolifera", a technical periodical of the oil industry in Roumania. This publication was published in Roumania. The first issue of the "Revista Petrolifera" was published on June 8th, 1940, just as France fell.

TGC:DEC

Thomas G. Cook

In September 1939, Mr. Dichter volunteered for duty with the French Army, but was not called up until May 1940. He served as a private up to the collapse of France and was wounded on September 2nd, 1940.

He and his wife went to the United States in 1941 and were a political view created by the Roumanian Army. In May 1942 Mr. and Mrs. Dichter were permitted to leave Roumania for the purpose of re-entering the United States on an immigration visa, which they now hold.

26 BROADWAY
NEW YORK

H. F. SHEETS

October 6th, 1942.

34253

Dear Mr. Cook:-

Re: Mr. Gabriel Dichter.

Referring to our conversation regarding Mr. Gabriel Dichter, the following information will interest you.

He was born at Bucarest July 13th, 1885 of Roumanian parents; was educated at Bucarest, also took his degrees at the Sorbonne in Paris in 1905. After completing his work at the Sorbonne, he returned to Bucarest and took up journalism.

In 1913 he was sent to Paris as Foreign Correspondent for a group of Roumanian daily papers.

In 1914, after the Declaration of War, he took an extremely active part in a propaganda campaign, endeavoring to wean Roumania from her Alliance with Germany. When this was successfully accomplished, and Roumania came into the War, he was mobilized into the Roumanian Army and placed in charge of the Roumanian Propaganda Bureau in Paris. He subsequently attended and covered all the Peace Conferences.

In 1920, he accompanied Mr. Take Jonescu, then Roumanian Minister of Foreign Affairs, on his trip through Europe to lay the foundation of the Petite Entente, and was entrusted with the propaganda connected with this political movement.

In 1921, he married a Scotch girl, Miss Edith Barstow.

In 1922, Mr. and Mrs. Dichter founded the "Revue Petroli-
fere", a technical periodical of the oil industry in Paris. This publication thrived and became the leading oil publication on the Continent. The last issue of the "Revue Petroli-
fere" was published on June 8th, 1940, just as France fell.

In September 1939, Mr. Dichter volunteered for duty with the French Army, but was not called up until May 1940. He served as a private up to the collapse of France and was demobilized on November 3rd, 1940.

He and his wife came to the United States in May 1941 on a political visa granted by the President's Advisory Committee. In May 1942 Mr. and Mrs. Dichter were permitted to go to Canada for the purpose of re-entering the United States on an Immigration visa, which they now hold.

-2-

Thomas G. Cook.

October 6th, 1942.

Since their arrival in this country, they have been the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Elliott Hugh Lee. Mr. Lee is Vice President of the Guaranty Trust Company, and will, I am sure, be glad to corroborate all that I have written above.

So much for Mr. Dichter's history -

It has seemed to me that Mr. Dichter's knowledge of Europe, coupled with his experience during the First World War and throughout the Twenties in carrying on active propaganda on behalf of the Allies and Petite Entente could be of great use to the O.S.S. He is extremely anxious to get active employment in some kind of war work and I am very glad to be able to recommend him.

With kindest regards, I am,

Yours very truly,

A. P. Sheets.

Mr. Thomas G. Cook,
Office of Strategic Services,
630 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N.Y.

P. S. Mr. Gabriel Dichter can be reached

c/o Mr. Elliott Hugh Lee,
Palisade Ave. & 255th Street,
Riverdale,
New York City.

W 26523

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Telephone:

#23

COORDINATOR OF INFORMATION

INTEROFFICE MEMO

x 6546

FROM: HUGH R. WILSON
TO: MR. ALLEN D. DULLES
SUBJECT: MEMORANDUM FOR: MR. HUGH R. WILSON
FROM: MR. ALLEN DULLES

June 3, 1942

SECRET

Referring to your memorandum of June 1, 1942, (S.A. File #7902), I had intended to send on the original of the letter from Mrs. Dichter to Mr. A. H. Meyer, but it was inadvertently left in our files. This original letter is enclosed herewith.

If you see no objection, I think it should be sent to D in Berne, together with an explanation as to the identity of the writer and of the addressee.

A.W.D.

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 009007

Telephone:

COORDINATOR OF INFORMATION

INTEROFFICE MEMO

FROM: Hugh R. Wilson
TO: Mr. Allen W. Dulles
SUBJECT: S.A. File #7902

DATE JUN 1 1946

y 4595

If I understand your memorandum of May 29th correctly, you intended to enclose therein the original letter signed by Mrs. Dichter for forwarding through the pouch. If my interpretation is correct, please send it down.

I am not able to get in touch with anybody this afternoon to consult as to sending it on, but it does not appear to me as raising any objections.

HW

CONFIDENTIAL

Gabriel Dichter,
% Mr. E. H. Lee,
Palisade Avenue,

Telephone:

XI 9-8228

May 29, 1942.

MEMORANDUM TO: Mr. H. R. Wilson
FROM: Allen W. Dulles

Harold Sheets, of Socony Vacuum Oil Company, who has been extremely helpful to us on a number of matters, brought me in touch with Mrs. Gabriel Dichter, whose curriculum vitae, as well as that of her husband, is enclosed herewith. As you will see, Mr. and Mrs. Dichter have an intimate knowledge of the petroleum industry in Europe because of their association with the publication of Petroleum Reviews over a long period of years.

Mrs. Dichter told me that she was in very close touch with a man in Zurich, Switzerland, A. H. Meyer, who had a very wide knowledge of the petroleum industry in Europe, Germany, Roumania, etc., and at my suggestion she has written the enclosed letter addressed to Mr. Meyer, which is entirely innocuous in character but which would afford our man in Switzerland an opportunity to get in touch with Meyer and possibly to obtain valuable information. Naturally, if he could obtain the petroleum publications referred to in the letter and sent them through the pouch we could arrange to have them analyzed for us by Mrs. Dichter.

If you and Arthur Roseborough see no objection, I should be glad to have this letter sent on to our friend in Switzerland by the pouch, leaving it to his discretion as to the method of establishing contact with Meyer. For your convenience and our respective files, I have enclosed a photostat of the letter and the envelope.

Mrs. Dichter told me that our friends should only establish contact with Meyer personally as she was not sure of some of the people in the organization but could vouch for Meyer's integrity, discretion and sympathies. She said that if Meyer was away on a trip, as was often the case, his return should be awaited.

A.W.D.

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Gabriel Dichter,
§ Mr. E. H. Lee,
Palisade Avenue,
Riverdale, New York, New York

Telephone:

KI 9-8228

x 4593

Born: July 13, 1883 at Bucarest

1905: Received his degree in the sciences (physics, chemistry and mathematics) at the Sorbonne in Paris.

1906: Was entrusted with the direction of the Bureau of Propaganda at the first Rumanian National Exhibition after this had turned out to be a failure. Succeeded in making a brilliant success of it and was decorated "proprio mottu" by the King as a result.

1907: Became Chef du Cabinet (First Secretary) in the Ministry of Agriculture under Dr. C. Istrati.

Together with Jean Duca, who later became Prime Minister and who was assassinated by the Iron Guard, founded the daily newspaper "Viitorul" based on modern lines. The appearance of this Journal served as an incentive to the remainder of the Rumanian press to modernize itself also.

1910: Founded the "Universitatea Populara", which is still in existence and is the principal center of instruction for the popular masses.

1913: Founded the Comite "Franco-Ruman" in Bucarest and Paris.

1914: (Spring) With the cooperation of the "Revue Hebdomadaire" of Paris, organized a series of lectures in Bucarest and Paris in view of influencing public opinion in Rumania - then very pro-German. The lectures were given by men of high caliber, such as Andre Tardieu, Louis Barthou, Denys Cochin, General Pelecier, G. Lacour-Gayet, Stephane Lausanne, Paul Adam, etc. They had such a wide repercussion and caused so much anxiety in Germany that, as a result of the direct intervention of William II, the King of Rumania required them to stop. Later in the year, Rumanian public opinion, having entirely veered around in favor of France, opposed the execution of the Treaty of Alliance with Germany and her partners. Mr. Dichter then returned to Paris to direct a campaign of propaganda, which resulted in Rumania entering the War on the side of the Allies in 1916. During this period, Mr. Dichter was obliged to make several journeys across Germany for his conferences in Rumania, which proved both dangerous and uncomfortable, owing to his anti-German attitude with which the Germans were perfectly au courant. He was arrested by them on three different occasions.

1917: After the conquest of Rumania by Germany, Mr. Dichter founded the first foreign Press Bureau in Paris. It enjoyed such success that all the Allied Nations followed suit. The Bureaus which were then created were officially attached to the embassies and legations after the War.

- 1919: Was attached to the Rumanian Delegation to the Peace Conference. Although the Delegation had been formed, Rumania had not at that time been admitted to participate at the Conference and Mr. Dichter was entrusted with the mission of creating a better atmosphere through propaganda. In the space of two weeks, with the support of Queen Marie of Rumania, the Rumanian Delegation was accepted.
- 1920: Accompanied Mr. Take Jonescu, then Minister of Foreign Affairs, as his Secretary on his trip through Europe to lay the foundations of the "Petite Entente". Was entrusted with all the propaganda connected with this new, constructive political movement in Europe. Also attended the Conference of San Remo, Spa and Genoa attached to the Rumanian Delegation.
- 1921: Married Edith Jane Barstow and took up permanent residence in Paris.
- 1922: Founded "La Revue Petrolifere", a technical publication for the oil industry which appeared regularly weekly until June 8, 1940. The third day after the official entry of the German Army in Paris, and on June 18th, the Gestapo sought out the offices of the Revue and thereafter on three other occasions, searched the premises and removed all files, documents, ledgers and all papers of interest. La Revue Petrolifere had vigorously proposed an oil embargo against Japan at the moment of its attack on Manchuria, against Italy at the time of the Ethiopian affair and had at all times drawn the attention of politicians and military authorities to the systematic "stocking" of petroleum products by the Nazis, as well as to the dangers thereof, if nothing were done to counteract it.
- During its eighteen years of existence, La Revue Petrolifere, under Mr. Dichter's directorship, proposed and supported various ideas for the aggrandizement of the French oil industry. Amongst those which were adopted were: the creation of the French refineries, the creation of a technical school for those wishing to study petroleum at Strasburg, and the research work that was undertaken in France and its Colonies.
- 1935: Acquired a fifty (50%) per cent interest in the "Petroleum Times", the leading London oil trade journal.
- 1939: When War was declared, volunteered for service with the French Army. Was called up in May and demobilized on the 4th of November, 1940.
- 1941: Arrived in the United States of America on the 13th of May.

CURRICULUM VITAE .

Mrs DICHTER, Edith Jane, nee Barstow.

Address & Description: late of 81 Avenue de Villiers, Paris, 17.

Present address: c/o Mr Elliott Hugh Lee, Palisade Avenue & 255th Street, Riverdale, N.Y. City. Telephone: Kingsbridge 9-8228. Wife of Gabriel Dichter, Editor and owner of the "Revue Petroliere", 23, Rue de Constantinople, Paris, VIII.

Born : 15th April 1898 at Edrom, Duns, Berwickshire, Scotland. Youngest daughter of the late Lt. Colonel T.A.A. Barstow, of 32 India Street Edinburgh.

Educated: Ecole Vinet, Lausanne (Switzerland); Ladies' Merchant College, Edinburgh, (Scotland); and Neu Watzum, Wolfenbuttel, (Germany).

Health: excellent, age: 44.

CAREER.

1915 - 1918: Served as volunteer with the Italian Red Cross from June 1915 to October 1918. Received two awards from the Italians for services rendered.

1919 - Was employed by the Italian Censorship for a period of six months.

1921 - Married Gabriel Dichter, publicist of Bucarest and Paris.

1922 - Helped him found the "Revue Petroliere" - a technical weekly for the oil industry - and collaborated for eighteen years. The organization was composed of editorial Offices and owned its own printing establishment which afforded ample opportunity for becoming thoroughly acquainted both with the publishing business and with the advertising trade.

1935 - Acquired a 50% interest in the "Petroleum Times", leading London oil trade Journal and became a Member of the Board of Directors.

1936 - Was entrusted with the production (in Paris) of "St Hubert" one of the leading French shooting publications which was then edited and printed by the Revue Petroliere.

1940 - The last issue of the Revue Petroliere was published on June 2 five days before Paris was taken. Making no intention to continue publication under German occupation, the business was abandoned and Mr and Mrs Dichter came to the U.S.A. in May 1941.

Complete files of the "Revue Petroliere" and the "Petroleum Times" are to be found in the New York Public Library.

References: Mr Godfrey Haggard, British Consul General, New York.
Mr William C. Dickerman, President of the American Locomotive Co., 30, Church Street, New York City.
Mr Elliott Hugh Lee, Vice President Guaranty Trust Co., 140, Broadway New York.

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[Signature]

May
Twenty-seventh
1942.

To: A.W.D.

From: A.J.H.

We know nothing about Mrs. Gabriel Dickter
besides the fact that she is British born.

Her husband, who is connected with the Roumanian
oil industry and who fought in the French Army in the last war,
gave us some interesting information about industrial conditions
in Roumania. Husband and wife seemed all right.

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26 BROADWAY
NEW YORK

H. F. SHEETS

May 27th, 1942.

My dear Allen:-

This will introduce Mrs. Gabriel Dichter regarding whom I have just spoken to you. You can rely on her completely, and I am sure you will find her interesting because of what she has done and knows.

Best regards.

Yours very truly,

H. F. Sheets

H. F. Sheets.

Mr. Allen W. Dulles,
630 Fifth Avenue (Room 3663)
New York, N.Y.

To Elliott Lee

Palisade Ave + 255 st

Riverdale

Kingsbridge 9-8228

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MONITORUL PETROLULUI ROMAN NO 12.
(June 15, 1942)

Sub-titles of the Journal are in German and in French in alternate numbers.

I) An analyses of the Rumanian petroleum stock market by Mr Nic. Lazar is published in this issue.

He points out that during the first three months of 1942 nearly 200.000 shares of the Creditul Minier, 150.000 shares of the S.A. Petrol Block, 50.000 shares of the S.A. Redeventza, and 10.200 I.R.D.P. shares changed hands in Bucarest. These shares were obviously bought by the Germans.

The annual report of the Creditul Minier is published in German, so are the balance sheets of Petrol Block, Redeventza, and Astra Romana. Those of Romana Americana, Sospiro and Colombia have, on the other hand, been published in French.

Creditul Minier's report contains many interesting details, but none of major importance. The report confirms the fact that crude production declined during 1941. No figures or percentages are given in this respect.

56,68% of Creditul Minier's exports went to Germany; 21,99% to Italy, 11,7% to Switzerland, and the German military mission obtained 8,41%.

(translation of this report is recommended)

II) The commercial agreement concluded on March 31, 1939 by the Rumanian and French governments has now been completed by a protocol signed in Vichy on February 28, 1942. The protocol deals with an exchange of goods and with the conditions of payment for same.

III) The Germans have a road transportation system operating under the name of "Transport-Standard Cospeur"; they have now organized a water transport system of the same name, which owns a fleet of hundreds of small boats operating on all the rivers in Germany.

IV The Steaua Romana has been granted three areas of 100 acres each in the Prahova district where the company is to do research work in the hope of finding aluminium silicate.

V See page 374 for a complete plan of the projected European waterway system.

Mr Marinesco, now Minister of Commerce has been replaced by a German, Mr Osterwind, as General Manager of the S. Colombia

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VII Despite all Nazi theories about the Gold Standard, gold production in Rumania has increased considerably during German occupation. From 2.278 kgs. in 1939, 2.096 kgs in 1940 it rose to 2.664 kgs in 1941.

VIII. The following increases in the price of petroleum products have taken place in Japan:

January 15, 1942.	Crude (national Production)	21%
	Refined oils (imported)	11%
	Refined oils (national)	14%
	Refined oils (synthetic pr.)	120%
	Alcohol	100%
	Kerosene	70%
	Diesel oil for agriculture	12%
	Diesel for fishing boats	22%
	Lubricating oils (ord.)	17%
	Lubricating oils (special)	30%
	Aviation gasoline	33%
	Gasoline for automobiles	40%

IX. The Italian "Sinda" navigation company has joined the danubian Pool. All the vessels belonging to this company on the Danube transport petroleum products exclusively.

MONITORUL PETROLULUI ROMAN NO 13.

Publishes the annual report of the S.A. Distributia , the cooperative distributing company for the petroleum industry. The company was in charge of supplies of petroleum products for the army as well as for civilian consumption. This report reveals that whereas crude petroleum production and refinery operations have diminished during the past years, consumption has increased. In spite of this, large quantities of products have been available for export. In 1941 the company paid 3.547.644.000 Lei in taxes representing 56% of the total value of the products sold. Taxes on the turnover amounted to 526.946.000 Lei. One can deduct from these figures that the company must have sold roughly 200.000 tons of products, and it is probable that most of it was consumed by the Rumanian army. Over and above this Distributia supplied the German ^{minion} ~~army~~ with products and a certain amount to agriculture. This forms part of a separate accounton which the company paid 121.000.000 Lei in itaxes. The total quantity of products on this account can be estimated at about 5.000 tons. The company owns 121 depots disseminated all over the country; and a map has been published with the report indicating the approximate location of these depots. By enlarging the map and then super-imposing it upon a map of Rumania it should be

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possible to locate the exact spots where these depots are located.

It is important to note that some of depots belonging to Distributia are situated in the Ukraine.

The company only owns 190 tank cars, tank trucks, pick ups, and refueling planes.

Dr Vasile Th. Cerkez publishes an article in this issue which is probably inspired by the Germans, in which he emits the opinion that Europe's needs in petroleum products can be satisfied by production from the Russian, Rumanian, Iraquian Persian and Arabian oilfields He estimates German synthetic production at 3.000.000 tons a year.

The total capacity of all the ~~Rumanian~~ vessels that have entered and left Rumanian ~~Dadubian~~ ports during 1941 totals 8.242.032 tons. During September and October the capacity of the vessels touching at these ports amounted to 1.150.000 (1.150.000) tons a month.

During the first quarter of 1942 total capacity barely attained 343.768 tons.

On page 408 see the map of Rumania with projected railroads.

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MEMORANDUM

October 9, 1942

TO: Mr. Murray Gurfein

FROM: Thomas G. Cook

Pursuant to our conversation, I attach hereto a copy of a letter I am today sending to Mr. Gabriel Dichter. I am also attaching a copy of the letter from H. F. Sheets, vice president of the Socony-Vacuum Oil Company.

T.G.C.

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SECRET

October 9, 1942

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MR. MR. GABRIEL DICHTER

Referring to our conversation regarding Mr. Gabriel Dichter, the following information will interest you.

October 9, 1942

He was born at Bucharest July 12, 1895 of Roumanian parents; was educated at Bucharest, also took his degree at the Sorbonne in Paris in 1920. After completing his work at the Sorbonne, he returned to Bucharest and took up journalism.

Mr. Gabriel Dichter
c/o Mr. Elliott Hugh Lee
Palisade Avenue & 255th Street
Riverdale, New York

In 1917 he was a correspondent for a group of Roumanian daily papers.

In 1914, after the Declaration of War, he took an extremely active part in a propaganda campaign, endeavoring to keep Roumania from allying with Germany. With this Mr. H. F. Sheets has given us your name in connection with the work of this office, and suggested that we get in touch with you.

Dear sir:

At your convenience, will you please telephone Mrs. Murray Gurfeln here for an appointment. The address is Room 3663, 630 Fifth Avenue, telephone: Columbus 5 - 8540.

Yours very truly,

In 1921, he married a Polish girl, Miss Edith Dichter.

In 1925, Mr. and Mrs. Dichter founded the "Revue Petrolifere", a technical periodical of the oil industry in France. This publication thrived and became the leading technical publication in the Continent. The last issue of the "Revue Petrolifere" was published on June 9, 1940, just as France fell.

Thomas G. Cook

TGC:DEC

In September 1939, Mr. Dichter volunteered for duty with the French Army. He was not called up until May 1940. He served as a private up to the collapse of France and was demobilized on November 3, 1940.

He and his wife came to the United States in May 1941 on a political visa granted by the President's Advisory Committee. In May 1942, Mr. and Mrs. Dichter were permitted to go to Canada for the purpose of re-entering the United States on an Immigration visa, which they now hold.

Since their arrival in this country, they have been the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Elliott Hugh Lee. Mr. Lee is vice president of the Germany Trust Company, and will, I am sure, be glad to corroborate all that I have written above.

See also for Mr. Dichter's history --

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COPY

SECRET

October 9, 1949

030152

RE: Mr. Gabriel Dichter

Referring to our conversation regarding Mr. Gabriel Dichter, the following information will interest you.

He was born at Bucharest July 13, 1885 of Roumanian parents; was educated at Bucharest, also took his degrees at the Sorbonne in Paris in 1908. After completing his work at the Sorbonne, he returned to Bucharest and took up journalism.

In 1913 he was sent to Paris as Foreign Correspondent for a group of Roumanian daily papers.

In 1914, after the Declaration of War, he took an extremely active part in a propaganda campaign, endeavoring to wean Roumania from her Alliance with Germany. When this was successfully accomplished, and Roumania came into the war, he was mobilized into the Roumanian Army and placed in charge of the Roumanian Propaganda Bureau in Paris. He subsequently attended and covered all the Peace Conferences.

In 1920, he accompanied Mr. Take Jonescu, then Roumanian Minister of Foreign Affairs, on his trip through Europe to lay the foundation of the Petite Entente, and was entrusted with the propaganda connected with this political movement.

In 1921, he married a Scotch girl, Miss Edith Barstow.

In 1922, Mr. and Mrs. Dichter founded the "Revue Pétrolifere", a technical periodical of the oil industry in Paris. This publication thrived and became the leading oil publication on the Continent. The last issue of the "Revue Pétrolifere" was published on June 8, 1940, just as France fell.

In September 1939, Mr. Dichter volunteered for duty with the French Army, but was not called up until May 1940. He served as a private up to the collapse of France and was demobilized on November 3, 1940.

He and his wife came to the United States in May 1941 on a political visa granted by the President's Advisory Committee. In May 1943, Mr. and Mrs. Dichter were permitted to go to Canada for the purpose of re-entering the United States on an Immigration visa, which they now hold.

Since their arrival in this country, they have been the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Elliott Hugh Lee. Mr. Lee is vice president of the Guaranty Trust Company, and will, I am sure, be glad to corroborate all that I have written above.

So much for Mr. Dichter's history --

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It has seemed to me that Mr. Dichter's knowledge of Europe, coupled with his experience during the First World War and throughout the twenties in carrying on active propaganda on behalf of the Allies and Petite Entente could be of great use to the O.S.S. He is extremely anxious to get active employment in some kind of war work and I am very glad to be able to recommend him.

(Signed) H. F. Sheets

P.S. Mr. Gabriel Dichter can be reached:

c/o Mr. Elliott Hugh Lee
Palisade Avenue & 255th Street
Riverdale
New York

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